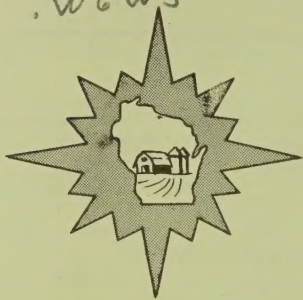


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**WISCONSIN**

# Farm Reporter

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

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## Cream of the News

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during December are expected to average \$5.57 a hundredweight, the highest price ever received for any month.

The preliminary estimate of Wisconsin's milk production for 1971 was 18,737 million pounds, an increase of 2 percent from 1970 and the highest total since 1965.

Wholesale prices of butter and cheese increased from November to December.

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation at the end of December were below the previous year.

The average number of workers on Wisconsin farms during 1971 was less than in 1970 but wage rates were up.

Higher meat animal and milk prices for the month ending December 15 resulted in a 6 point gain in the prices received index compared with a month earlier.

Red meat output in Wisconsin's commercial slaughter plants during November was 1 percent under a year ago as a 5 percent decline in pork production offset a 4 percent increase in beef.

Farm numbers in Wisconsin are now the lowest since 1870 and land in farms is the smallest since 1900.

Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 4 percent fewer cattle on feed January 1 than a year ago but the 23 major feeding States were up 9 percent.

Feeding of sheep and lambs continues to decline in Wisconsin as there were only 21,000 on feed January 1, down 5,000 from a year ago.

Preliminary estimates indicate that commercial hatcheries in Wisconsin produced 13 percent fewer chicks in 1971 than in 1970.

The December price of \$21.00 a hundredweight for barrow and gilts at St. Paul was the highest of any month during 1971 and was \$5.36 more than the previous year.

## MILK PRICE AT RECORD HIGH

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during December are expected to average \$5.57 a hundredweight, the highest price ever received for any month. The December milk price increased 7 cents from November in contrast to the usual seasonal decline.

November milk prices averaged \$5.50 a hundredweight, up 8 cents from October and 6 cents above November 1970. Milkfat content averaged 3.83 percent in November, the same as a year earlier.

Grade A producers received an average of \$5.72 a hundredweight in November, 6 cents more than October and 12 cents higher than the previous year. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$5.20 a hundredweight during November, an increase of 7 cents from October but 2 cents below a year ago. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 52 cents for November compared with 38 cents a year earlier.

A preliminary average of the monthly prices for 1971 shows that Wisconsin farmers received \$5.30 a hundredweight for all milk sold in 1971. This was 18 cents above the 1970

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	October 1971		November price per cwt.			Dec. 1971 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1970	1971	71/70 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . . . .	3.79	5.42	5.44	5.50	+ 1	5.57
Minnesota . . . . .	3.67	5.06	5.05	5.10	+ 1	5.13
Iowa . . . . .	3.60	5.15	5.33	5.31	N.C.	5.36
New York . . . . .	3.64	6.60	6.54	6.60	+ 1	6.40
California . . . . .	3.61	5.70	5.54	5.80	+ 5	6.00
United States . . . .	3.71	6.09	6.09	6.17	+ 1	6.17
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . . . .	3.78	5.66	5.60	5.72	+ 2	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.81	5.13	5.22	5.20	N.C.	XXX
Creameries . . . . .	3.84	5.11	5.13	5.13	N.C.	XXX
Cheese factories . . .	3.80	5.14	5.23	5.21	N.C.	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.82	5.09	5.18	5.13	- 1	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test. Forecast rounded to nearest nickles for most states is the estimated average price for the month for all milk sold at wholesale to plants and dealers.

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average and the eighth consecutive year the annual milk price was higher than the previous year.

#### Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Nov. 1970	Oct. 1971	Nov. 1971 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses . . . . .	4.96	5.01	5.03	+ 1
Market milk . . . . .	5.11	5.24	5.24	+ 3
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	4.75	4.71	4.74	N.C.
Creameries . . . . .	4.62	4.66	4.68	+ 1
American cheese plants . . . . .	4.76	4.71	4.73	- 1
Varied products plants . . . . .	4.70	4.66	4.66	- 1
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone 3/. . . . .	5.50	5.54	5.55	+ 1

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary. 3/Includes Milwaukee County, Wisconsin and Winnebago County, Illinois.

#### 1971 MILK PRODUCTION UP 2 PERCENT

The preliminary estimate of Wisconsin's milk production for 1971 was 18,737 million pounds, an increase of 2 percent from 1970 and the highest total since 1965. Milk production on Wisconsin farms was above the previous year for all months during 1971. The State's annual milk output accounted for nearly 16 percent of the Nation's total in 1971.

Production per cow in Wisconsin for 1971 was at a record level during the first ten months of the year. In May and June, production per cow exceeded 1,000 pounds. The number of milk cows on Wisconsin farms in 1971 increased for the first time since 1955.

December's milk production in Wisconsin totaled 1,439 million pounds, up about 1 percent from a year earlier. Production increased 8 percent from November to December, the same gain as shown for those months in 1970. Output per cow in December, at 775 pounds, remained unchanged from the previous year.

The Nation's December milk production of 9,444 million pounds was 1 percent more than a year ago. Daily average production in December was up 2 percent from November, the same increase as in the previous year. Preliminary estimates of milk production for the Nation in 1971 totaled 118,617 million pounds, 1 percent greater than the 1970 output. Production was above a year earlier in all months of 1971 with the largest increases occurring in the last quarter.

#### Milk Production

Selected States	December 1970	December 1971	Jan.-Dec. 1971	Change from last year	
				Dec.	Jan.-Dec.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . . .	1,431	1,439	18,737	+ 1	+ 2
Minnesota. . . .	798	783	9,753	— 2	N.C.
Iowa. . . . .	367	356	4,577	— 3	— 3
New York. . . .	840	832	10,444	— 1	N.C.
Pennsylvania . .	572	575	7,138	+ 1	N.C.
California . . . .	777	779	9,737	N.C.	+ 3
Other states. . .	4,564	4,680	58,231	+ 3	+ 1
United States. .	9,349	9,444	118,617	+ 1	+ 1

#### NOVEMBER CHEESE PRODUCTION UP 10 PERCENT FROM YEAR AGO

Production of all cheese in the Nation during November was 10 percent more than the previous year. All varieties of cheese showed increases from a year ago, with American up 8 percent, Italian 13 percent, Swiss 22 percent, Brick and Muenster 5 percent, and all other cheese 7 percent.

Wisconsin's American cheese output for November was 2 percent above a year earlier. Minnesota increased their production of American cheese to 16 percent higher than November 1970. Missouri was up 6 percent from November a year ago and other States had a gain of 13 percent.

Butter production in the Nation during November was down 1 percent from that month in 1970. Dairy plants in Wisconsin produced about the same amount of butter in November as a year ago but Minnesota's output declined 12 percent. Iowa churned 6 percent more butter than in November 1970 and other States were up 4 percent.

#### Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Nov. 1970	Nov. 1971	Jan.- Nov. 1971	Change from last year	
				Nov.	Jan.-Nov.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin . . . . .	13,246	13,200	188,640	N. C.	+ 3
Minnesota. . . . .	20,294	17,900	256,345	- 12	- 7
Iowa. . . . .	6,268	6,620	87,000	+ 6	- 1
Other states. . . . .	39,136	40,610	521,830	+ 4	+ 5
United States. . . . .	78,944	78,330	1,053,815	- 1	+ 1
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin . . . . .	43,410	44,400	622,550	+ 2	+ 3
Minnesota. . . . .	10,814	12,500	150,205	+ 16	+ 30
Missouri. . . . .	5,619	5,970	84,400	+ 6	+ 4
Other states. . . . .	35,695	40,420	544,645	+ 13	+ 6
United States. . . . .	95,538	103,290	1,401,800	+ 8	+ 7
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss . . . . .	10,786	13,185	143,560	+ 22	+ 8
Brick and Muenster . .	4,688	4,910	54,640	+ 5	+ 7
Limburger . . . . .	250	260	2,365	+ 4	- 8
Italian. . . . .	32,552	36,850	409,270	+ 13	+ 15
All other . . . . .	17,573	18,835	163,250	+ 7	+ 1
Total . . . . .	65,849	74,040	773,085	+ 12	+ 9
ALL CHEESE					
United States. . . . .	161,387	177,330	2,174,885	+ 10	+ 8
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/. . . . .	55,637	60,705	700,485	+ 9	+ 4
Creamed 2/. . . . .	73,779	81,295	943,655	+ 10	+ 4
Ice Cream	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,396	1,600	19,145	+ 15	- 4
Illinois . . . . .	2,773	2,850	38,365	+ 3	+ 3
Iowa. . . . .	546	630	7,230	+ 15	- 3
Michigan . . . . .	2,400	2,620	34,135	+ 9	- 1
Minnesota . . . . .	1,880	2,280	26,845	+ 21	+ 3
Other states. . . . .	42,071	45,825	594,450	+ 9	+ 2
United States. . . . .	51,066	55,805	720,170	+ 9	+ 1

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

#### — PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

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*This publication is free upon request to the Wisconsin Statistical Reporting Service, Box 5160, Madison, Wisconsin 53705.*



Production of both ice cream and cottage cheese curd in the Nation during November was 9 percent greater than a year earlier.

**Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products  
United States**

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1969	Nov. 30, 1970	Nov. 30, 1971	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk . . . . .	5,652	4,781	5,343	+ 12
Dried skim milk . . . . .	92,639	107,166	92,507	- 14
Dried buttermilk . . . . .	4,948	7,955	2,016	- 75
Condensed milk and Evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ .	115,761	147,508	111,729	- 24

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

### WHOLESALE BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES UP

Wholesale prices of butter and cheese increased from November to December. Prices of 92-score butter at the New York market averaged about 69 cents a pound during December, a slight gain from the previous month but more than 2½ cents below December 1970.

Cheddar cheese, 40 pound blocks, averaged nearly 58¼ cents a pound at Wisconsin primary markets in December. This was an increase of over 2 cents from November and was about 1¼ cents a pound above December 1970.

Block Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 68.10 cents a pound for December, up more than 1½ cents from the previous month and slightly over ½ cent higher than a year earlier.

**Wholesale Dairy Prices**

Commodity	December 1970	November 1971	December 1971 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . . .	71.68¢	68.79¢	68.99¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/. . .	57.00¢	56.09¢	58.21¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/. . . . .	67.50¢	66.50¢	68.10¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range . . . . .	—	\$7.70-9.08	—
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound. . . . .	26.90¢	31.61¢	31.63¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

### BUTTER PRODUCTION TO REMAIN LOWER

Based on weekly receipts of milk by dairy plants, butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during December will remain below a year earlier. National butter output may be about 7 percent under December 1970 compared with only a 1 percent decline in November. Because of higher production earlier in the year, the Nation's butter production through November was up 1 percent from that period in 1970. Wisconsin's butter production for December could be less than in the previous year but total churnings for the first 11 months of 1971 was 3 percent more than in the comparable period of 1970.

Weekly milk receipts indicate that production of American cheese in the Nation during December may be about 4

percent above a year earlier following an 8 percent increase in November. National production of American cheese from January through November was 7 percent more than in those months of 1970. Wisconsin's output of American cheese for December may show little change from a year earlier but production through November was 3 percent higher than in January-November 1970.

**Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output**

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1971	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1971	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
November . . . . .	78,330	- 1	N.C.	103,290	+ 8	+ 2
Jan.-Nov . . . . .	1,053,815	+ 1	+ 3	1,401,800	+ 7	+ 3
Weeks ending						
Dec. 9 . . . . .	18,700	- 6	- 9	24,300	+ 4	N.C.
Dec. 16 . . . . .	18,000	- 5	+ 3	24,600	+ 4	+ 1
Dec. 23 . . . . .	18,650	- 8	- 8	27,300	+ 5	+ 2
Dec. 30 . . . . .	22,800	- 7	- 5	28,750	+ 1	- 2
Total . . . . .	78,150	- 7	XXX	104,950	+ 4	XXX

### BUTTER AND CHEESE STOCKS LOWER THAN YEAR AGO

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation at the end of December were lower than a year ago. Butter stocks totaled nearly 105 million pounds on December 31, a decline of 12 percent from the previous year. Stocks of butter in cold storage decreased by 50 million pounds during December and were 14 million pounds under December 31, 1970. The Government owned 78 million pounds of butter in cold storage at the end of December, down 21 percent from a year earlier.

Stocks of American cheese in the Nation's cold storage facilities on December 31 totaled 235½ million pounds, 7 percent below the previous year. American cheese stocks declined by 11 million pounds during December and were more than 18 million pounds lower than at the end of 1970. Government-owned stocks of American cheese totaled almost 3 million pounds on December 31 compared with 1¼ million pounds on that date in 1970.

**Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese**

Commodity	Dec. 31, 1969	Dec. 31, 1970	Dec. 31, 1971	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter . . . . .	88,636	118,772	104,762	- 12
Cheese, American . . . . .	265,438	253,984	235,550	- 7
Cheese, Swiss . . . . .	10,313	12,644	8,383	- 34
Cheese, all other . . . . .	41,784	57,855	56,875	- 2
Cheese, total . . . . .	317,535	324,483	300,808	- 7
	WISCONSIN			
Butter . . . . .	2,107	1,133	4,500	+ 297
Cheese, American . . . . .	145,164	147,098	132,590	- 10
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter . . . . .	63,581	99,055	78,305	- 21
Cheese, American . . . . .	1,058	1,266	2,912	+ 130

\*Included in above totals.



## PRICES RECEIVED INDEX HIGHER

An increase in meat animal and milk prices for the month ending December 15 resulted in a 6 point gain in the prices received index for Wisconsin farm products compared with a month earlier. At 352 percent of the 1910-14 base, the index was 19 points above the previous year.

Hog prices averaged \$19.70 a hundredweight at mid-December, up 70 cents from a month ago and \$4.10 more than last year. The December hog price was the highest for any month in 1971.

Steers and heifers averaged \$29.00 a hundredweight as of December 15, an increase of 50 cents from the previous month and \$4.30 above a year earlier. Slaughter cows, at \$20.50 a hundredweight, were unchanged from last month but \$2.30 higher than on December 15, 1970.

Calves averaged \$41.30 a hundredweight for December, up 30 cents from November and \$6.80 above a year ago. Sheep, at \$5.30 a hundredweight on December 15 were unchanged from both a month and a year earlier. The mid-December lamb price of \$24.00 a hundredweight was the same as the previous month but increased 90 cents from last year. The higher livestock prices than a year ago resulted in a gain of 59 points (19 percent) for the meat animal index compared with December 15, 1970.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	December 1969	December 1970	November 1971	December 1971
Dollars					
Milk cows . . . . .	Head	340.00	380.00	415.00	415.00
Steers and heifers . .	Cwt.	26.10	24.70	28.50	29.00
Cows . . . . .	Cwt.	19.20	18.20	20.50	20.50
Calves . . . . .	Cwt.	34.10	34.50	41.00	41.30
Hogs . . . . .	Cwt.	25.50	15.60	19.00	19.70
Sheep . . . . .	Cwt.	6.70	5.30	5.30	5.30
Lambs . . . . .	Cwt.	26.60	23.10	24.00	24.00
Wool . . . . .	Lb.	.35	.34	.25	.24
Chickens 1/ . . . . .	Lb.	.070	.070	.085	.070
Turkeys . . . . .	Lb.	.26	.23	.22	.23
Eggs . . . . .	Doz.	.58	.33	.29	.32
Corn . . . . .	Bu.	1.09	1.35	1.04	1.10
Oats . . . . .	Bu.	.62	.75	.69	.70
Alfalfa hay, baled . .	Ton	18.50	20.50	21.50	21.50

1/Excludes broilers.

Egg prices increased 3 cents a dozen for the second consecutive month, but at 32 cents a dozen in December were 1 cent under a year earlier. Turkeys averaged 23 cents a pound liveweight as of December 15, up 1 cent from the previous month but the same as last year.

Corn, oats, and soybeans all increased in price for the month ending December 15. Corn averaged \$1.10 a bushel, up 6 cents from mid-November but 25 cents below December 1970. Oats, at 70 cents a bushel in December, was up 1 cent from a month ago but 5 cents less than last year. Soybeans averaged \$2.93 a bushel on December 15, a gain of 10 cents from the previous month and 33 cents above a year ago.

## FARM WAGES HIGHER IN 1971 BUT NUMBER OF WORKERS DECLINE

The average number of workers on Wisconsin farms during 1971 was less than in 1970 but wage rates were higher. Total family and hired workers on Wisconsin farms averaged

4 percent fewer in 1971 than a year earlier. Wage rates averaged 4 to 7 percent more in 1971 than in 1970, depending on whether employed by the month, day, or hour.

On January 1, 1972, Wisconsin farmers were paying an average of \$359 per month with a house and \$278 with board and room. This compares with \$350 per month with a house and \$260 with board and room on January 1, 1971. Daily rates averaged \$12.00 with board and room and \$15.00 without board or room on January 1 this year, both \$1.10 higher than last year. Workers paid by the hour without board or room received \$1.87 on January 1, 1972 compared with \$1.79 a year ago.

Farm Workers and Wages  
Wisconsin and United States

Item	Wisconsin		United States	
	1970	1971	1970	1971
December				
Farm Workers 1/				
Hired . . . . .	13,000	14,000	641,000	704,900
Family . . . . .	148,000	145,000	2,788,700	2,688,500
Total . . . . .	161,000	159,000	3,429,700	3,393,400
January 1				
	1971	1972	1971	1972
Wage Rates 2/				
By the month				
With house . . . . .	\$350.00	\$359.00	\$335.00	\$349.00
With board and room . .	260.00	278.00	267.00	277.00
By the day				
With board and room . .	10.90	12.00	11.00	11.40
Without board and room .	13.90	15.00	12.10	12.50
By the hour				
No board or room . . . .	1.79	1.87	1.76	1.82

1/Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month. 2/Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above.

## FARM NUMBERS CONTINUE TO DECLINE

At the beginning of 1972 there were 108,000 farms in Wisconsin, 2 percent less than a year earlier. Farm numbers have been declining since reaching a peak of 200,000 in 1935. The 1972 number is the lowest since 1870 when there were 103,000 farms in the State.

The land in farms as of January 1, 1972 totaled 20 million acres, down 200,000 from the previous year and the smallest since 1900. Land in farms has been decreasing along with farm numbers but at a slower rate. During the past 10 years farm land in Wisconsin declined 9 percent while the number of farms went down 19 percent. Industrial and urban growth, changes and additions to the highway systems, greater recreational uses, and rising real estate taxes have continued to reduce the land in farms.

While farms have been declining, the average size of a Wisconsin farm has been steadily increasing. From a low of 113 acres in 1925 the average farm size grew to a record 185 acres by January 1, 1972. Larger farming operations have been made possible by increased mechanization, improved cropping practices, and better management.

On January 1, 1972, there were 2,831,410 farms in the Nation, 2 percent below a year earlier. Total land in farms, at 1,114 million acres, was down less than ½ percent from January 1, 1971. The average size of farms was 394 acres, up



5 acres from the previous year. In the last 10 years the number of farms in the Nation has declined 23 percent while land in farms has decreased 4 percent.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms  
Wisconsin and United States 1935-72 1/

Year	Wisconsin			United States 2/		
	No. of farms	Average size	Land in farms	No. of farms	Average size	Land in farms
	Thous.	Acres	Mil. acres	Thous.	Acres	Mil. acres
1935. . . . .	200	118	23.5	6,812	155	1,054.5
1940. . . . .	193	119	22.9	6,097	174	1,060.9
1945. . . . .	179	132	23.6	5,859	195	1,141.6
1950. . . . .	174	136	23.6	5,648	213	1,202.0
1955. . . . .	155	150	23.2	4,654	258	1,201.9
1960. . . . .	138	161	22.2	3,962	297	1,176.9
1961. . . . .	136	163	22.1	3,821	306	1,169.9
1962. . . . .	133	165	22.0	3,685	315	1,161.4
1963. . . . .	130	168	21.8	3,561	324	1,153.1
1964. . . . .	127	170	21.6	3,442	333	1,146.8
1965. . . . .	124	173	21.4	3,340	342	1,141.5
1966. . . . .	121	175	21.2	3,239	351	1,137.2
1967. . . . .	118	178	21.0	3,146	360	1,132.0
1968. . . . .	116	179	20.8	3,054	369	1,127.6
1969. . . . .	114	181	20.6	2,971	378	1,124.0
1970. . . . .	112	182	20.4	2,924	383	1,120.7
1971. . . . .	110	184	20.2	2,876	389	1,117.4
1972 3/. . . .	108	185	20.0	2,831	394	1,114.2

1/Including Alaska and Hawaii. 2/Data prior to 1950 are from U. S. Agricultural Census. 3/Preliminary.

## MILK COW FARMS DECLINE BUT COW NUMBERS INCREASE

Data compiled from the Wisconsin Assessors' Farm Census reports for 1971 showed that the number of farms with milk cows continued to decline but the number of cows increased for the first time in several years. Farms with milk cows decreased about 2,400 from the spring of 1970 to the spring of 1971. This was a decline of 4 percent, nearly the same reductions as occurred from 1969 to 1970. Milk cow numbers however increased slightly from 1970 to 1971 after having declined almost 10,000 from the spring of 1969 to the spring of 1970.

The drop in both the number of farms with milk cows and the number of milk cows in 1971 occurred on farms that had less than 30 milk cows. Farms with 30 or more cows

Number of Milk Cow Farms and Milk Cows by Size of Herd  
Wisconsin Assessor Farm Census, 1970 & 1971

Size of herd	Farms		Cows	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1970				
1 - 9 . . .	6,639	11.1	30,814	1.9
10 - 19 . .	11,839	19.8	175,553	10.6
20 - 29 . .	16,731	28.0	407,855	24.6
30 - 49 . .	19,567	32.8	721,223	43.5
50 - 74 . .	4,008	6.7	229,895	13.9
75 - 99 . .	660	1.1	55,269	3.3
100+. . . .	287	.5	36,725	2.2
TOTAL . . .	59,731	100.0	1,657,334	100.0
1971				
1 - 9 . . .	5,826	10.2	27,265	1.7
10 - 19 . .	10,713	18.7	159,212	9.6
20 - 29 . .	15,724	27.4	383,427	23.1
30 - 49 . .	19,563	34.1	723,857	43.7
50 - 74 . .	4,394	7.7	252,453	15.2
75 - 99 . .	760	1.3	63,456	3.8
100+. . . .	355	.6	48,507	2.9
TOTAL . . .	57,335	100.0	1,658,177	100.0

showed an increase of 2 percent in farm numbers and a 4 percent gain in milk cows. The majority of Wisconsin's milk cow farms and milk cows are still on farms with less than 50 milk cows. These farms accounted for 90 percent of the total milk cow farms and 78 percent of the total milk cows.

## FEWER CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN WISCONSIN

Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 144,000 cattle and calves on feed January 1, 1972, a decline of 4 percent from a year earlier. A total of 90,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed in the last quarter of 1971, down 4 percent from that quarter in 1970. Fed cattle marketed numbered 53,000 during October through December compared with 51,000 in the previous year.

There were 115,000 steer and steer calves in Wisconsin feed lots on January 1, a decline of 8,000 from a year ago. Heifer and heifer calves, at 28,000, were 2,000 more than on

Cattle and Calves on Feed in 39 States  
January 1, 1972, With Comparisons 1/ 2/

State	Jan. 1, 1970	Jan. 1, 1971	Oct. 1, 1971	Jan. 1, 1972	Change from last year
1,000 head					Percent
Pennsylvania . . . . .	88	92	54	91	- 1
Ohio . . . . .	318	308	167	320	+ 4
Indiana . . . . .	349	314	234	283	- 10
Illinois . . . . .	755	649	445	662	+ 2
Michigan . . . . .	210	225	140	230	+ 2
Wisconsin . . . . .	146	150	107	144	- 4
Minnesota . . . . .	589	548	400	537	- 2
Iowa . . . . .	2,213	1,992	1,437	2,092	+ 5
Missouri . . . . .	402	342	254	373	+ 9
North Dakota . . . . .	63	45	30	52	+ 16
South Dakota . . . . .	361	339	285	363	+ 7
Nebraska . . . . .	1,477	1,422	1,287	1,550	+ 9
Kansas . . . . .	892	916	930	1,100	+ 20
Oklahoma . . . . .	223	236	243	250	+ 6
Texas . . . . .	1,417	1,480	1,608	1,781	+ 20
Montana . . . . .	115	130	95	165	+ 27
Idaho . . . . .	230	222	194	265	+ 19
Colorado . . . . .	795	888	895	983	+ 11
New Mexico . . . . .	209	165	158	188	+ 14
Arizona . . . . .	510	524	459	539	+ 3
Washington . . . . .	155	141	162	155	+ 10
Oregon . . . . .	96	80	67	82	+ 3
California . . . . .	1,031	1,001	1,015	1,045	+ 4
23 States . . . . .	12,644	12,209	10,666	13,250	+ 9
New York . . . . .	15	11		12	+ 9
Maryland . . . . .	20	20		20	N. C.
Virginia . . . . .	35	46		37	- 20
North Carolina . . . . .	43	49		47	- 4
South Carolina . . . . .	15	18		23	+ 28
Georgia . . . . .	59	59		62	+ 5
Florida . . . . .	61	57		57	N. C.
Kentucky . . . . .	53	48		44	- 8
Tennessee . . . . .	26	29		27	- 7
Alabama . . . . .	38	35		34	- 3
Mississippi . . . . .	20	15		17	+ 13
Arkansas . . . . .	16	17		17	N. C.
Louisiana . . . . .	10	9		8	- 11
Wyoming . . . . .	31	35		37	+ 6
Utah . . . . .	57	68		55	- 19
Nevada . . . . .	47	45		49	+ 9
39 States . . . . .	13,190	12,770		13,796	+ 8
New Jersey . . . . .				5	
West Virginia . . . . .				10	
Other States . . . . .				7	
48 States . . . . .				13,818	
Hawaii . . . . .				15	
United States . . . . .				13,833	

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fattened for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better. 2/Data not available for periods blank.



January 1, 1971. The number of cattle and calves on feed in the lightest weight group was higher on January 1 this year than last year. A total of 26,000 weighing under 500 pounds were on feed the first of the year compared with 20,000 a year ago. The weight group of 700 to 900 pounds had 12,000 fewer on feed January 1 than in the previous year. Totals for other weight groups combined were equal to the number on feed January 1, 1971.

Wisconsin cattle feeders intend to market 53,000 cattle in the first quarter of 1972. These expected marketings would be 8,000 below last year.

Cattle and calves on feed January 1, 1972, totaled 13,796,000 in 39 feeding States, an increase of 8 percent from a year earlier. The 23 major feeding States had 13,250,000 on feed, up 9 percent from January 1 a year ago.

Cattle and calves on feed in the North Central States were 6 percent above the previous year. Iowa held its position as the leading feeding State with 2,092,000 cattle and calves on feed January 1, a gain of 5 percent from last year. Nebraska was up 9 percent while Kansas had an increase of 20 percent.

The 10 Western States had 12 percent more cattle and calves on feed January 1 than a year ago, with all States sharing in the rise. Texas ranked second Nationally with 1,781,000 on feed, 20 percent greater than on January 1, 1971. Cattle feeding in California was up 4 percent and Colorado showed an increase of 11 percent.

Cattle and calves placed on feed in the 23 major feeding States during October through December 1971 were 10 percent more than in the same quarter a year earlier.

Fed cattle marketed for slaughter in the 23 States during the last quarter of 1971 were about equal to the previous year. Cattle feeders in these States plan to market 7 percent more cattle during January through March 1972 than were marketed in that quarter of 1971.

## BEEF OUTPUT UP BUT PORK LOWER

Commercial slaughter plants in Wisconsin produced 107 million pounds of red meat during November, an increase of 3 percent from October but 1 percent under the previous year. Output of beef in November was 4 percent above a year earlier but pork production declined 5 percent.

### Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	November		Change from last year	November	
	1970	1971		1970	1971
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin . . . . .	91.0	93.5	+ 3	100.7	104.3
United States 1/ . .	2,773.7	2,921.9	+ 5	2,873.7	3,023.0
Calves					
Wisconsin . . . . .	34.5	23.9	— 31	4.9	3.7
United States 1/ . .	326.6	303.7	— 7	78.3	75.3
Hogs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	349.0	333.0	— 5	83.1	79.3
United States 1/ . .	8,093.8	8,219.2	+ 2	1,969.0	1,989.8
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin . . . . .	.3	.4	+ 33	.029	.039
United States 1/ . .	774.0	858.9	+ 11	80.2	90.1

1/Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Cattle slaughter for November totaled 93,500 compared with 96,000 in October and 91,000 in November 1970. The average liveweight of cattle was 1,116 pounds in November, a gain of 9 pounds from a year earlier.

Hog slaughter, at 333,000 during November, was 23,000 more than October but 16,000 below November 1970. Hogs averaged 238 pounds liveweight for November, the same as in the previous year.

The November calf kill of 23,900 was 3,100 less than October and 10,600 under November a year ago. Average liveweight of calves slaughtered in November was 154 pounds, 12 pounds heavier than a year earlier. Sheep and lamb slaughter, at 400 for November, was the same as October but 100 more than November 1970.

## MEAT STOCKS UP 1 PERCENT FROM YEAR EARLIER

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of 1971 were 1 percent higher than a year earlier. Beef stocks were down 2 percent and pork holdings were slightly under the previous year. This was the first time that cold storage stocks of pork were below a year ago since April 1970.

There were about 331 million pounds of beef in cold storage on December 31, an increase of 5 million pounds from a month earlier but 7½ million pounds below a year ago. Pork stocks rose by 8 million pounds during December but were more than ½ million pounds under the previous year. Although both beef and pork supplies in cold storage at the end of December were below a year earlier, total meat stocks were up because of an increase in canned hams.

### Cold Storage Stocks of Meat United States

Commodity	Dec. 31, 1969	Dec. 31, 1970	Nov. 30, 1971	Dec. 31, 1971	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef:					
Frozen . . . . .	340,515	326,493	317,651	322,979	- 1
In cure and cured . . . . .	12,380	11,872	8,332	7,836	- 34
Total . . . . .	352,895	338,365	325,983	330,815	- 2
Pork:					
Frozen . . . . .	187,635	312,436	303,194	313,413	N. C.
In cooler . . . . .	23,300	23,666	23,920	22,036	- 7
Total . . . . .	210,935	336,102	327,114	335,449	N. C.
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen . . . . .	9,890	8,717	8,127	9,137	+ 5
Lamb and mutton, frozen	16,134	19,336	18,626	19,174	- 1
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams . . . . .	31,156	36,687	59,921	53,482	+ 46
Other meats . . . . .	16,289	20,059	17,098	18,105	- 10
Total, all meats. . . . .	637,299	759,266	756,869	766,162	+ 1

## BEEF CATTLE PRICES HIGHER

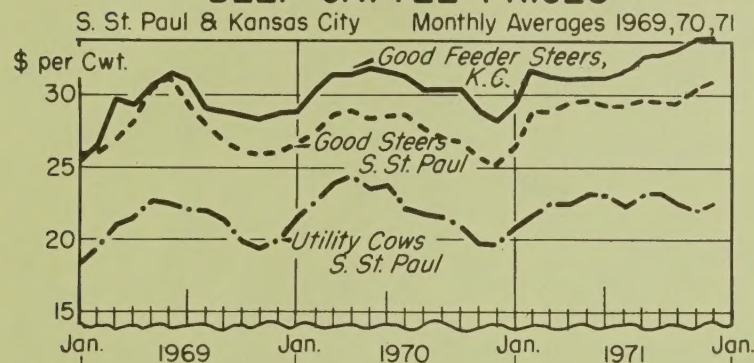
Good grade steers at the St. Paul market averaged \$31.03 a hundredweight for December, up 75 cents from November and almost \$6.00 more than a year earlier. For 1971 the price of good grade steers at St. Paul averaged \$29.37 a hundredweight, an increase of \$2.00 from the previous year. Utility cows averaged \$22.64 a hundredweight at St. Paul in December, a gain of 65 cents from November and \$2.88 above December 1970. The 1971 average for utility



cows was \$22.54 a hundredweight, up 46 cents from a year earlier.

Prices of good grade feeder steers at the Kansas City market averaged \$34.06 a hundredweight in December, 18 cents above the previous month and \$5.84 more than December 1970. Good grade feeder steers at Kansas City averaged \$32.00 a hundredweight for 1971, an increase of \$1.50 from a year earlier.

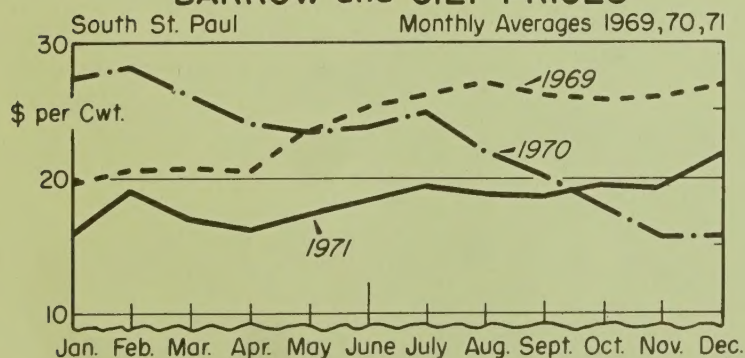
### BEEF CATTLE PRICES



### HOG MARKET INCREASES

Barrow and gilt prices at the St. Paul market averaged nearly \$21.00 a hundredweight for December, up \$1.79 from a month earlier and \$5.36 more than the previous year. The December price for barrow and gilts was the highest of any month during 1971. However, the annual average of \$18.48 a hundredweight for 1971 was almost \$4.00 lower than 1970.

### BARROW and GILT PRICES



### SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FEED CONTINUE TO DECLINE

Feeders in Wisconsin had 21,000 sheep and lambs on feed January 1, 1972. This was 5,000 less than a year earlier and the lowest number ever reported on feed for the first of the year. A decade ago there was 50,000 sheep and lambs being fed on Wisconsin farms but the numbers have generally been on the decline since then. The highest number on feed in Wisconsin was on January 1, 1932 when 124,000 sheep and lambs were being fattened for the slaughter market.

In the 26 States where estimates are made, there were 2,175,000 sheep and lambs on feed January 1, 1972, up 3

percent from a year earlier. The North Central States were down 2 percent from January 1, 1971 while the 11 Western States declined 1 percent.

Sheep and lambs on feed January 1 in the 7 major feeding States were 7 percent more than a year ago and 5 percent above the November 1, 1971 level. These 7 States accounted for 56 percent of the total sheep and lambs on feed in the 26 States.

### Sheep and Lambs: Number on Feed 1/

State and region	January 1, 1971	November 1, 1971	January 1, 1972	Change from last year
	1,000 head			Percent
New York . . . . .	13		13	N.C.
Ohio . . . . .	112		108	- 4
Indiana . . . . .	33		21	- 36
Illinois . . . . .	60		55	- 8
Michigan . . . . .	60		46	- 23
Wisconsin . . . . .	26		21	- 19
Minnesota . . . . .	111		109	- 2
Iowa . . . . .	179	166	179	N.C.
Missouri . . . . .	49		44	- 10
North Dakota . . . . .	77		73	- 5
South Dakota . . . . .	131	161	145	+ 11
Nebraska . . . . .	162	173	152	- 6
Kansas . . . . .	75	125	97	+ 29
N. C. States . . . . .	1,075		1,050	- 2
Oklahoma . . . . .	25		33	+ 32
Texas . . . . .	279	217	399	+ 43
Montana . . . . .	100		100	N. C.
Idaho . . . . .	141		102	- 28
Wyoming . . . . .	105		116	+ 10
Colorado . . . . .	480	475	440	- 8
New Mexico . . . . .	37		32	- 14
Arizona . . . . .	76		91	+ 20
Utah . . . . .	80		85	+ 6
Nevada . . . . .	23		28	+ 22
Washington . . . . .	18		25	+ 39
Oregon . . . . .	62		99	+ 60
California . . . . .	115	127	102	- 11
Western States . . . . .	1,237		1,220	- 1
7 States 2/ . . . . .	1,421	1,444	1,514	+ 7
26 States . . . . .	2,629		2,715	+ 3

1/Sheep and lambs on feed are animals being fattened for slaughter market on grain, other concentrates or succulent pastures and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better. 2/Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Colorado and California.

### Honey Production, 1971 1/

State	Colonies of bees	Yield per colony	Honey production
	1,000 col.	Pounds	1,000 pounds
New York . . . . .	51	70	3,570
Illinois . . . . .	12	80	960
Michigan . . . . .	61	70	4,270
Wisconsin . . . . .	58	104	6,032
Minnesota . . . . .	79	84	6,636
Iowa . . . . .	42	95	3,990
North Dakota . . . . .	55	77	4,235
South Dakota . . . . .	106	97	10,282
Nebraska . . . . .	102	56	5,712
North Carolina . . . . .	6	79	474
Georgia . . . . .	67	55	3,685
Florida . . . . .	111	80	8,880
Texas . . . . .	66	52	3,432
Montana . . . . .	72	55	3,960
Idaho . . . . .	91	39	3,549
Colorado . . . . .	37	55	2,035
Arizona . . . . .	41	60	2,460
Washington . . . . .	70	26	1,820
Oregon . . . . .	28	40	1,120
California . . . . .	384	40	15,360
20 states . . . . .	1,539	60.0	92,462

1/ Commercial production in apiaries with 300 or more colonies in 20 major producing states, 1971.



# CHICK HATCH LOWER IN 1971

Preliminary estimates indicate that commercial hatcheries in Wisconsin produced more than 21½ million chicks during 1971. This production was 13 percent lower than in 1970 as the egg-type hatch was down 20 percent and the broiler-type hatch declined 9 percent.

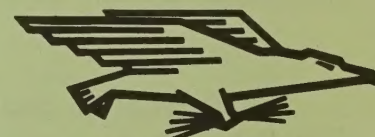
The egg-type hatch of 7,926,000 for 1971 was nearly 2 million less than in 1970 as hatchings were below a year earlier in all months of 1971. A total of 13,751,000 broiler-type chicks were hatched in 1971, the lowest number since 1965. October was the only month in 1971 when the broiler-type hatch exceeded the previous year.

Chickens Hatched by Wisconsin Commercial Hatcheries — 1963 — 71

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
1,000 chicks													
Egg Type													
1963. . .	323	547	1,400	2,404	1,710	611	185	123	136	170	189	223	8,021
1964. . .	274	449	1,948	2,165	1,731	673	244	340	275	153	188	297	8,737
1965. . .	283	718	992	1,757	1,419	595	142	229	229	257	255	256	7,132
1966. . .	406	511	1,008	1,612	1,354	768	381	236	343	303	271	322	7,515
1967. . .	427	485	950	1,316	1,094	636	323	338	229	176	267	337	6,578
1968. . .	311	605	814	1,012	891	509	307	407	305	486	359	386	6,392
1969. . .	383	375	717	1,131	1,052	650	332	432	455	481	641	508	7,157
1970. . .	707	724	1,050	1,496	1,211	737	641	530	635	784	595	744	9,854
1971. . .	467	613	995	1,220	1,107	663	533	512	331	572	527	386	7,926
Broiler Type													
1963. . .	617	862	889	984	1,136	889	1,083	895	723	687	731	755	10,251
1964. . .	740	776	994	1,064	952	967	942	809	685	732	800	883	10,344
1965. . .	807	858	995	1,138	1,123	1,175	1,291	1,217	998	855	1,055	1,047	12,559
1966. . .	1,018	1,011	1,331	1,320	1,581	1,438	1,287	1,346	1,160	958	1,050	1,126	14,626
1967. . .	1,092	1,081	1,428	1,369	1,454	1,488	1,227	1,267	1,016	943	1,083	1,068	14,516
1968. . .	1,128	1,177	1,210	1,477	1,554	1,314	1,303	1,193	1,035	948	1,112	1,193	14,644
1969. . .	1,203	1,156	1,284	1,302	1,447	1,383	1,297	1,259	1,161	1,179	1,101	1,160	14,932
1970. . .	1,254	1,142	1,265	1,450	1,500	1,502	1,233	1,207	1,162	1,066	1,126	1,178	15,085
1971. . .	1,121	1,102	1,188	1,363	1,401	1,262	1,129	1,070	933	1,148	1,116	918	13,751

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